

EXHIBIT D

Deposition of Mark Torkelson (M.T.)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

D.C. AND R.M.,	:	
Plaintiffs	:	
	:	
vs.	:	
	:	
NELSON MARTIN D/B/A	:	
LIBERTY RIDGE FARM,	:	CIVIL ACTION
LIBERTY RIDGE FARM,	:	NO: 5:21-CV-05070-JMG
EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA	:	
MENNONITE CHURCH AND	:	
RELATED AREAS, AND	:	
MENNONITE MESSIANIC	:	
MISSION OF THE EASTERN	:	
PENNSYLVANIA MENNONITE	:	
CHURCH,	:	
Defendants	:	

DEPOSITION OF: MARK TORKELSON

TAKEN BY: PLAINTIFFS

REPORTER: TRACY L. LLOYD, RPR
NOTARY PUBLIC

KYLAN BARRY, VIDEOGRAPHER

DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2022, 8:58 A.M.

PLACE: MARGOLIS EDELSTEIN
214 SENATE AVENUE, SUITE 402
CAMP HILL, PENNSYLVANIA

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES:</p> <p>2 ANDREOZZI & FOOTE</p> <p>3 BY: RENEE E. FRANCHI, ESQUIRE</p> <p>4 4503 NORTH FRONT STREET</p> <p>5 HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17110</p> <p>6 (717) 686-9936</p> <p>7 Renee@vca.law</p> <p>8</p> <p>9 -- For the Plaintiffs</p> <p>10</p> <p>11 MARGOLIS EDELSTEIN</p> <p>12 BY: MEGHAN WYNKOOP, ESQUIRE</p> <p>13 JOCELYN MENDEZ, ESQUIRE</p> <p>14 THE CURTIS CENTER, SUITE 400E</p> <p>15 170 SOUTH INDEPENDENCE MALL W.</p> <p>16 PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106</p> <p>17 (215) 922-1100</p> <p>18 mwynkoop@margolisedelstein.com</p> <p>19</p> <p>20 -- For the Defendants</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 STIPULATIONS</p> <p>2 It is stipulated and agreed by and between</p> <p>3 counsel for the respective parties that the reading,</p> <p>4 signing, sealing, and filing of the transcript is</p> <p>5 waived and that all objections, except as to the</p> <p>6 form of the question, are reserved to the time of</p> <p>7 trial.</p> <p>8</p> <p>9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins Media</p> <p>10 Number 1 in the videotaped deposition of Mark</p> <p>11 Torkelson in the matter of D.C. and R.M. v. Martin, et</p> <p>12 al, in the United States District Court for the</p> <p>13 Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Case Number</p> <p>14 521-CV-05070-JMG.</p> <p>15 Today's date is October 19th, 2022. The</p> <p>16 time on the video monitor is 8:58 a.m. The</p> <p>17 videographer today is Kylan Barry representing Planet</p> <p>18 Depos. This video deposition is taking place at 214</p> <p>19 Senate Avenue, Suite 402, Camp Hill, PA, 17011.</p> <p>20 Would counsel please voice identify</p> <p>21 themselves and state whom they represent.</p> <p>22 MS. FRANCHI: I am Renee Franchi with the</p> <p>23 law firm of Andreozzi and Foote, and I represent the</p> <p>24 Plaintiffs in this matter.</p> <p>25 MS. WYNKOOP: Meghan Wynkoop, Margolis</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 INDEX OF WITNESSES</p> <p>2 EXAMINATION</p> <p>3 MARK TORKELOSON</p> <p>4 By Ms. Franchi</p> <p>5 By Ms. Wynkoop</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 Edelstein, and I represent the Defendants.</p> <p>2 MS. MENDEZ: Jocelyn Mendez, Margolis</p> <p>3 Edelstein, and I represent the Defendants.</p> <p>4 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The court reporter</p> <p>5 today is Tracy Lloyd. Will the reporter please swear</p> <p>6 in the witness.</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 MARK TORKELOSON, called as a witness,</p> <p>9 being affirmed, testified as follows:</p> <p>10</p> <p>11 MS. FRANCHI: Okay. We will just agree</p> <p>12 to the same preliminary issues that were put on the</p> <p>13 transcript first thing yesterday so I can spare</p> <p>14 counsel from repeating it again and for the next</p> <p>15 couple days. Is there anything else you think? We're</p> <p>16 good?</p> <p>17 MS. WYNKOOP: No. We agree.</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 EXAMINATION</p> <p>20</p> <p>21 BY MS. FRANCHI:</p> <p>22 Q. Good morning, Mr. Torkelson. My name is</p> <p>23 Renee Franchi. I represent the Plaintiffs in this</p> <p>24 matter. I apologize. I'm already losing my voice</p> <p>25 from speaking all day yesterday. I'm sure by Friday</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 it will be completely gone. I appreciate you being 2 with us today.</p> <p>3 Before we get to case-related questions, 4 I need to ask you some preliminary questions just to 5 make sure that you understand the expectations and the 6 rules for the deposition today.</p> <p>7 The first thing is that when I or your 8 attorney asks you a question, you do have to give a 9 verbal answer. This is not just a non-verbal response 10 like a head nod or uh-huh or something like that. 11 This is because of the stenographer being here. She's 12 typing down all of the questions and the answers 13 today, and she can only type down verbal responses. 14 So will you be able to make sure that you do give me 15 verbal responses to your questions today?</p> <p>16 A. I will try.</p> <p>17 Q. Thank you. Next, if you are asked a 18 question that you don't understand, that doesn't make 19 sense, whether it be because I worded it confusingly, 20 which has been known to happen, or for any other 21 reason, please feel to say you don't understand the 22 question or ask me to repeat the question, and I can 23 do that for you. Can you do that?</p> <p>24 A. I will.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. In that same light, if you're</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 exact date, but you do know a time frame, say, between 2 the years of 2000 and 2004, it's fair to say that you 3 don't remember exactly when this event occurred, but 4 that it happened between those two years?</p> <p>5 So if you are able to approximate, please 6 let me know. But if you simply do not know or do not 7 remember an answer or an event, please say so. Is 8 that fair?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. The most important thing today is that we 11 just want you to tell the truth. Is there anything 12 that would prevent you from being able to fully 13 testify to the truth today?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. So I think first we'll be 16 starting with some just general background questions. 17 I don't know you. We've never spoken before, so I'd 18 like to get to know you a little bit, and then we'll 19 get into some more specific questions about the events 20 in this case or the issues that we brought you here 21 for today.</p> <p>22 Do you have any questions for me or for 23 your attorney before we start today?</p> <p>24 A. I do not think so.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. So the first matter is what did</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 asked a question and you do answer with a verbal 2 response, I will assume that you understood the 3 question. Is that fair?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. Now, I do expect that we'll be 6 here for a few hours this morning. Attorneys are bad 7 at estimating time, but I don't think it will be too 8 long. But if you do need to take a break at any time 9 to use the restroom, to get something to drink, to 10 stretch your legs, or for any other reason, please let 11 me know. That's perfectly fine.</p> <p>12 The only restriction is that if you're 13 asked a question, you may not take a break until the 14 question is answered, and then afterwards you may do 15 so. Does that make sense?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Now, during this deposition, I may ask 18 you to either estimate or approximate something like 19 time or dates if you do not recall something 20 specifically. Please do not just simply guess at the 21 answer. If you think that you can give a fair 22 estimate or approximation, please let me know and 23 please do so.</p> <p>24 For example, if I ask you a question 25 about when an event happened and if you don't know the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 you do in preparation for your deposition today other 2 than speaking with your attorney, if anything?</p> <p>3 A. Nothing.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. Did you review any documents?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. And I know earlier you had said 7 your name. But if you could, please for the record 8 today if you could state your full name?</p> <p>9 A. Mark Elton Torkelson.</p> <p>10 Q. And how do you spell your last name?</p> <p>11 A. T-o-r-k-e-l-s-o-n.</p> <p>12 Q. And what's your date of birth?</p> <p>13 A. 1/3/54.</p> <p>14 Q. Where were you born?</p> <p>15 A. Cheverly, Maryland.</p> <p>16 Q. And have you lived in Maryland your 17 entire life?</p> <p>18 A. Except for one year that I lived in 19 Missouri.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay. And where do you live now?</p> <p>21 A. At Keymar, Maryland.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. And what's your address?</p> <p>23 A. 12029 Simpsons Mill Road.</p> <p>24 Q. And who do you live there with?</p> <p>25 A. My wife.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 Q. What's her name?</p> <p>2 A. Paula.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you have any children?</p> <p>4 A. Paula is my second wife, so we have no</p> <p>5 children.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. Do you have children from your</p> <p>7 first marriage?</p> <p>8 A. Yes. I had seven.</p> <p>9 Q. Oh, wow. Okay. Are they all adults?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Do you have grandchildren?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. A few?</p> <p>14 A. I think it's 24.</p> <p>15 Q. Wow. That's great. All right. So what</p> <p>16 do you do for a job?</p> <p>17 A. I'm a carpenter.</p> <p>18 Q. In Maryland?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Do you ever travel interstate or is it</p> <p>21 generally in the same area that you live in?</p> <p>22 A. It's generally in the state of Maryland.</p> <p>23 Q. Do you own the business or do you work</p> <p>24 for someone?</p> <p>25 A. I own the business.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 specific congregation?</p> <p>2 A. It would be since 1968.</p> <p>3 Q. Oh, okay. So would it be safe to say</p> <p>4 then that you've been a part of the Mennonite faith</p> <p>5 your entire life?</p> <p>6 A. That is correct.</p> <p>7 Q. Have you always been a member of the</p> <p>8 Eastern Pennsylvania Church?</p> <p>9 A. No. I was a member at Lancaster</p> <p>10 Conference to begin with.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay. And then when did you switch over?</p> <p>12 A. In 1968.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay. So you had mentioned that you own</p> <p>14 the one company. You said it was Weathertight?</p> <p>15 A. That's correct.</p> <p>16 Q. And what kind of work do you do?</p> <p>17 A. We build pole barns.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay. And is that the only work you do</p> <p>19 or are there other types of construction or work that</p> <p>20 you do with your company?</p> <p>21 A. We also work on the old bank barns.</p> <p>22 Restore them.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. Do you -- so you do both</p> <p>24 construction from basically the ground up, and then</p> <p>25 you also do restoration work?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 Q. What's it called?</p> <p>2 A. Weathertight Services.</p> <p>3 Q. And how long have you worked or owned</p> <p>4 that company?</p> <p>5 A. It's a company that started in 1979.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. And when did you become involved?</p> <p>7 At the time that it started or after?</p> <p>8 A. I started it.</p> <p>9 Q. You did, okay. What's your education</p> <p>10 level?</p> <p>11 A. Through grade 10.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. And then did you receive any sort</p> <p>13 of graduation certificate, GED, anything like that or</p> <p>14 was it just through grade 10 and you began working?</p> <p>15 A. That's correct.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. And are you -- would you consider</p> <p>17 yourself to be a member of the Eastern Pennsylvania</p> <p>18 Mennonite Church or Eastern Pennsylvania Mennonite</p> <p>19 faith?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. And what congregation do you belong to?</p> <p>22 A. Hopewell.</p> <p>23 Q. And is that down in Maryland?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. How long have you been a member of that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 A. That's correct.</p> <p>2 Q. Do you ever do any demolition work?</p> <p>3 A. Very little.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you have any employees?</p> <p>5 A. No. We're set up as a limited</p> <p>6 partnership.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. How many people are involved?</p> <p>8 A. It's approximately five.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay. And do you have any financial</p> <p>10 interests in any other businesses?</p> <p>11 A. Not really, no.</p> <p>12 Q. What do you mean by that?</p> <p>13 A. Well, I have loaned some money to another</p> <p>14 young man who is starting a business.</p> <p>15 Q. Oh, okay.</p> <p>16 A. But I don't have any interest in the</p> <p>17 business.</p> <p>18 Q. Gotcha. That makes sense. And so in</p> <p>19 that vein, I would assume then when you don't have any</p> <p>20 other financial interests in other businesses, you</p> <p>21 also don't have ownership interest in any other</p> <p>22 businesses?</p> <p>23 A. That is correct.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. And where do you generally hold</p> <p>25 your personal bank accounts and your work bank</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 accounts? Is it a local bank in the area that you</p> <p>2 live in or is it somewhere else?</p> <p>3 A. It's a local bank.</p> <p>4 Q. Which one is it?</p> <p>5 A. WesBanco.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. And do you own any property?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Down in Maryland?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Is it just in Maryland?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. What would that be? Just your</p> <p>13 personal property?</p> <p>14 A. Our personal property.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. So I'm going to jump a little bit</p> <p>16 more specifically into the matters involving this case</p> <p>17 and specifically involving the Mennonite Messianic</p> <p>18 Mission which I'm just going to refer to as the</p> <p>19 Mission so you don't have to hear me stumbling over</p> <p>20 that through the entire deposition. So if you could,</p> <p>21 just starting out in your own words what is the</p> <p>22 Mission?</p> <p>23 A. It is the body that the church has</p> <p>24 commissioned to oversee the outreach activities of the</p> <p>25 church.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 A. I'm not sure if I understand your</p> <p>2 question.</p> <p>3 Q. So let me rephrase it. Are there any</p> <p>4 times when the Mission Board asks for guidance from</p> <p>5 the EPMC leaders or seeks their involvement in any</p> <p>6 matters during their board meetings?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. And are you currently on the board</p> <p>9 of directors?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. What's your position?</p> <p>12 A. I'm the secretary.</p> <p>13 Q. And what are your duties and</p> <p>14 responsibilities?</p> <p>15 A. To record the proceedings of the board</p> <p>16 and to sign any legal documents that need to be</p> <p>17 signed.</p> <p>18 Q. And how long have you been the secretary?</p> <p>19 A. Since 2013.</p> <p>20 Q. And were you on the board before that?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. What was your position?</p> <p>23 A. I was just an ordinary board member with</p> <p>24 no position --</p> <p>25 Q. Okay.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 Q. And are you aware of how long the Mission</p> <p>2 has been in existence?</p> <p>3 A. I can give you an approximate date.</p> <p>4 Q. Sure.</p> <p>5 A. 1966.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. So for some time now?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. And has the Mission always been</p> <p>9 run by a board of directors?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. And yesterday we spoke with a</p> <p>12 representative of the Eastern Pennsylvania Church.</p> <p>13 I'll just refer to it as the EPMC, again, so you don't</p> <p>14 have to hear me keep stumbling over it throughout the</p> <p>15 entire deposition. And we learned a little bit</p> <p>16 yesterday about the kind of governing body of the EPMC</p> <p>17 and just the general guidance that it gives throughout</p> <p>18 the community.</p> <p>19 So as it relates to the Mission, does the</p> <p>20 Mission receive any guidance from the EPMC at all?</p> <p>21 A. No.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. Are any of the EPMC leaders ever</p> <p>23 involved in any of the board meetings at the Mission?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. And usually when does that occur?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 A. -- for a while, and then I was assistant</p> <p>2 treasurer.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. And when were you the assistant</p> <p>4 treasurer?</p> <p>5 A. I'm not really sure of that date.</p> <p>6 Q. Was it immediately preceding when you</p> <p>7 became secretary? Like did you go from assistant</p> <p>8 treasurer to secretary?</p> <p>9 A. That is correct.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. So do you believe that you may</p> <p>11 have been or approximately were the assistant</p> <p>12 treasurer from the years of about 2010 to about 2013</p> <p>13 or at least sometime during then?</p> <p>14 A. Sometime during then, yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. But maybe not the whole time?</p> <p>16 A. Probably the whole time.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. And what were your duties as the</p> <p>18 assistant treasurer?</p> <p>19 A. Basically nothing.</p> <p>20 Q. I appreciate your honesty. What did you</p> <p>21 find yourself doing on the board when you were the</p> <p>22 assistant treasurer? If you didn't have any real</p> <p>23 specific duties, what was your involvement?</p> <p>24 A. Just to give the treasurer's report. And</p> <p>25 in the very unlikely event that the treasurer was not</p>

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1 there, he would give me the report, and then I would
 2 share it with the board. And so really it was very
 3 little that I did.
 4 **Q. Then otherwise you just acted as a normal**
 5 **board member?**
 6 A. That's correct.
 7 **Q. Okay. And who was the treasurer at the**
 8 **time?**
 9 A. Mervin Martin.
 10 **Q. And who is the treasurer now?**
 11 A. Nelson Nolt.
 12 **Q. And do you know who the treasurer was**
 13 **from about 2010 to about 2014, if you can recall?**
 14 A. I do not recall.
 15 **Q. Okay. Would it maybe have been one of**
 16 **those two individuals?**
 17 A. Probably would have been.
 18 **Q. Okay. Does your board have any governing**
 19 **documents like bylaws or any rules that govern the**
 20 **conduct of the board?**
 21 A. Yes, we do.
 22 **Q. And are you aware of whether those bylaws**
 23 **have been updated or altered in any way since about**
 24 **2010 onward?**
 25 A. No, they would not have.

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1 **Q. So I know you had said that the treasurer**
 2 **generally handles the finances, and you are the**
 3 **assistant treasurer and didn't do much in the form of**
 4 **dealing with the treasurer's activities, but tell me a**
 5 **little bit about the business structure of the Mission**
 6 **and where it receives its funding from and financially**
 7 **just how the Mission is structured, if you know.**
 8 A. The funding that comes to the Mission
 9 Board is strictly from congregational offerings and
 10 from personal donations.
 11 **Q. Does the Mission have any business**
 12 **interests?**
 13 A. No.
 14 **Q. Okay. Do you know if the Mission has any**
 15 **bank accounts?**
 16 A. Yes.
 17 **Q. Where are they held at?**
 18 A. I don't know.
 19 **Q. So tell me a little bit more about the**
 20 **duties of the Mission. I know that it kind of**
 21 **oversees a lot of different organizations and**
 22 **different parts of the outreach for the Eastern**
 23 **Pennsylvania Church. But if you could tell me a**
 24 **little bit more about what the Mission does.**
 25 A. The Mission primarily clears individuals

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1 for service in various fields, and in our foreign
 2 fields would be responsible for making sure that the
 3 fields have the necessary things that they need like
 4 church houses, schools.
 5 **Q. So the Mission oversees work in all sorts**
 6 **of countries, not just here in the United States?**
 7 A. That is correct.
 8 **Q. Do you know approximately how many**
 9 **countries it's doing work in now?**
 10 A. Eight.
 11 **Q. Oh, wow. Okay. Tell me about the**
 12 **domestic entities or business that the Mission does.**
 13 **I know obviously that we'll talk a little bit more**
 14 **about Liberty Ridge in a bit. But Liberty Ridge**
 15 **aside, what domestic business is the Mission involved**
 16 **in?**
 17 A. The Mission is not really involved in any
 18 business.
 19 **Q. Okay. Does it oversee or has it helped**
 20 **set up any other domestic entities other than Liberty**
 21 **Ridge?**
 22 A. There would be a Publication Board.
 23 There would also be two Bible schools. There would be
 24 a rest home committee.
 25 **Q. And are there any other residential**

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1 type -- I don't want to say facilities or residential
 2 type homes or programs other than Liberty Ridge that
 3 the Mission has ever been involved in domestically?
 4 A. No.
 5 **Q. Okay. So I'm going to get a little bit**
 6 **more into Liberty Ridge now. And if there's anything**
 7 **that I'm -- any road I'm going down or any questions I**
 8 **ask that you don't know or you feel that somebody else**
 9 **is better suited to answer those questions, please let**
 10 **me know. I don't want to go down a whole line of**
 11 **questions where you're just going to keep telling me I**
 12 **don't know. I'll save you the time from that.**
 13 **So were you on the board at the Mission**
 14 **when the board first began discussing creating the**
 15 **Liberty Ridge?**
 16 A. Yes.
 17 **Q. Do you remember about when that was?**
 18 A. Not exactly.
 19 **Q. When do you believe it may have been?**
 20 A. I believe it may have been in 2009 to
 21 2010.
 22 **Q. How did that discussion first come up?**
 23 A. It first came up because of the needs of
 24 young men for more structure in their lives and young
 25 men that needed help.

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 Q. And within the discussion of the board, 2 when you talk about the needs of young men or young 3 men that need help, could you elaborate a little bit 4 more just about what needs these are or what kind of 5 help it was believed that these men needed? 6 A. It would have been primarily in their 7 spiritual lives. 8 Q. What do you mean by that? 9 A. Some of these young men were rebellious 10 and not manageable at home and not getting along with 11 their peers and just simply very unstructured. 12 Q. Were these concerns that were brought to 13 the board by any individual people or was it from the 14 congregations or was it just a general sense within 15 the community? If you could just elaborate on that a 16 little bit. 17 A. I think it would have been a general 18 sense within the committee, I mean within the 19 community. 20 Q. Okay. So once the discussion began in 21 the board, how quickly did the, I guess, creation of 22 Liberty Ridge come about? Was it discussed at length 23 for quite some time and then began implementing some 24 more ideas or how did that discussion work, if you 25 remember?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 A. Yes. Oh, 86. I'm sorry. 2 Q. No. That's okay. 3 A. I'm at 186. 4 Q. Now I'm thinking I should have put like 5 tabs, but it didn't even occur to me. 6 MS. WYNKOOP: This has been pretty great, 7 though. No complaints here. 8 BY MS. FRANCHI: 9 Q. So I see you've turned to Page 86 in the 10 documents. Do you recognize what this document is, if 11 not specifically, then generally? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. And what is this document? 14 A. This would have been minutes from the 15 Mission Board. 16 Q. Okay. And is this generally how the 17 minutes of the Mission Board are kept during meetings? 18 A. That is correct. 19 Q. Okay. Do you recall, and I believe the 20 date on this document is June 2nd, 2010. I see at the 21 bottom that the names of the secretary and assistant 22 secretary. Are those the individuals who likely would 23 have been the ones keeping the minutes at the time? 24 A. That is correct. 25 Q. Okay. And I just want to make sure. At</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 A. First of all, there was a committee 2 appointed to see if they could meet those needs by 3 just soliciting individual homes to care for these 4 boys. And so they tried that for a while. I'm not 5 sure exactly how long. 6 Q. And when you say soliciting homes, do you 7 mean like actual homes of members of the church 8 community? 9 A. That's correct. 10 Q. Okay. And when you say soliciting homes, 11 was the committee just simply asking other community 12 members if they'd be willing to house these young men 13 or what do you mean by that? 14 A. That's correct. 15 Q. Okay. So you have that binder that's in 16 front of you. I printed out all the documents in this 17 case. They're all numbered. Their pages are all 18 numbered. I figured that would be easier than handing 19 documents back and forth. 20 So I'm going to have you turn to Page 86. 21 It's LRF-86, and it's probably about halfway through 22 the book. I'll give you a second to get to it. If 23 you could just let me know when you get there. And 24 now that I'm looking back, I probably should have 25 tabbed the pages. It would be Page 86.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 the top of the page of this and the next pages until 2 Page 95 it says custom pole buildings, and there's a 3 date. That isn't part of the minutes; correct? That 4 looks like it would have been something that would 5 have been either printed or scanned on the documents? 6 A. I don't understand your question. 7 Q. At the very top of the page here where it 8 says custom pole buildings, I just want to make sure 9 that that's not a part of the actual minutes. That 10 looks like it was just transposed onto the page? 11 A. That is correct. 12 Q. Okay. Is that your business or were you 13 the one who compiled these documents or is that 14 somebody else? 15 A. No. That is my business. I did not 16 compile these documents. 17 Q. Okay. Were you involved in printing -- I 18 just want to make sure I know what's on the page and 19 what isn't on the page that is part of what this is. 20 So that would have been then where it says here 21 12/19/21, you had somehow worked with either 22 transmitting or moving these documents from one place 23 to another, maybe your attorney? 24 A. Apparently that was the case. 25 Q. Okay. So I want to go about two thirds</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 down the page where it says boys home, specifically it</p> <p>2 says it was reported that the committee working on</p> <p>3 this interest will be at the next MMM meeting.</p> <p>4 Is that what you were saying earlier then</p> <p>5 about how there was a committee that was kind of put</p> <p>6 together to look into either creating the boys home or</p> <p>7 housing these young men with spiritual needs in other</p> <p>8 homes?</p> <p>9 A. That is correct.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. So I'm going to turn to the next</p> <p>11 page. It would be Page 87, and this looks like the</p> <p>12 minutes from June 29th, 2010. And I see now it says</p> <p>13 boys home committee.</p> <p>14 So, again, is this just going in the same</p> <p>15 vein where you put a committee together to kind of</p> <p>16 just look into the needs of the community with either</p> <p>17 a boys home or placing these young men with other</p> <p>18 families?</p> <p>19 A. My feeling at this point is that they</p> <p>20 were moving from the mode of trying to do this with</p> <p>21 individual homes to feeling that maybe should be an</p> <p>22 institution.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. So when it says investigative</p> <p>24 committee, is that what it would be referring to?</p> <p>25 A. That is correct.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 looking for someone to engage in this? Do you</p> <p>2 remember the process at all?</p> <p>3 A. I do not remember any process like you</p> <p>4 described.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. And all of the members of the</p> <p>6 Mission Board -- and I apologize, I can't recall if I</p> <p>7 asked this before -- are all members of the EPMC in</p> <p>8 some congregation or another?</p> <p>9 A. That is correct.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. And then all of the men that are</p> <p>11 in this investigative committee for the boys home,</p> <p>12 would they also all be members of the EPMC in some</p> <p>13 form or fashion, maybe not in the same congregation,</p> <p>14 but somewhere?</p> <p>15 A. That is correct.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. Do you recall whether any of the</p> <p>17 individuals from the investigative committee were sent</p> <p>18 to any other homes or properties to, I guess, look</p> <p>19 into other boys homes and how they were run to kind of</p> <p>20 fashion Liberty Ridge after?</p> <p>21 A. That would have been at their own</p> <p>22 choosing if they did such a thing. We would not have</p> <p>23 given any directive to that that I remember.</p> <p>24 Q. I guess you kind of anticipated my next</p> <p>25 few questions then. With the committee, did the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. So at this point it doesn't seem</p> <p>2 like they were sold on the idea of a boys home yet.</p> <p>3 They were just kind of leaning in that direction?</p> <p>4 A. That is correct.</p> <p>5 Q. So I see the next page, Page 88, looks</p> <p>6 like a meeting on August 3rd of 2010. About two</p> <p>7 thirds of the way down the page where it says boys</p> <p>8 home, it says that there is a committee established,</p> <p>9 and it lists some names. Ethan Weaver, Lamar Garman,</p> <p>10 Nelson Martin, Scott Martin, and Jacob Brubaker.</p> <p>11 Does that seem correct as the committee</p> <p>12 of individuals who were kind of investigating and</p> <p>13 looking into starting a boys home?</p> <p>14 A. I think that is correct.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Do you recall or do you have any</p> <p>16 knowledge of how those individuals were selected?</p> <p>17 A. They were probably appointed by the</p> <p>18 Mission Board to do that and would have been selected</p> <p>19 on the basis that they had some personal interest in a</p> <p>20 project like that.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. Do you recall -- and, again, if</p> <p>22 you don't remember, please let me know. Do you recall</p> <p>23 whether there was any selection process like they</p> <p>24 accepted resumes or did they just -- it was kind of</p> <p>25 put out generally in the community that you were</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 committee have any direction or oversight from the</p> <p>2 Mission or was their job to go and work amongst</p> <p>3 themselves and then come back and report their</p> <p>4 findings to the Mission?</p> <p>5 A. They were to investigate and then come</p> <p>6 back and report their findings, but we didn't</p> <p>7 specifically tell them to go to other boys homes.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. So would it be safe to say then</p> <p>9 you just gave them a task and a goal and said, you</p> <p>10 know, go figure it out and then let us know what you</p> <p>11 found?</p> <p>12 A. That is correct.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay. I'm going to turn to the next</p> <p>14 page, Page 89, where it talks about the purchase of a</p> <p>15 property under the boys home notation. Do you know if</p> <p>16 that purchase of the property it's referring is the</p> <p>17 current Liberty Ridge location?</p> <p>18 A. It is.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. Do you know who it was that</p> <p>20 purchased the property?</p> <p>21 A. It would have been the Mission Board.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. So the Mission Board would have</p> <p>23 purchased the property?</p> <p>24 A. That is correct.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. Does the Mission Board currently</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 own the property?</p> <p>2 A. I'm not sure about that.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. So you don't know if it changed</p> <p>4 hands at all?</p> <p>5 A. I'm not sure about that.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. Moving on to the next page, Page</p> <p>7 90, it talks about under the boys home notation on</p> <p>8 December 28th, 2010, that it was noted that township</p> <p>9 approval set the maximum age at 18 for residents in</p> <p>10 the program. Was the original discussion to also</p> <p>11 include residents above the age of 18?</p> <p>12 A. I don't remember any discussion like</p> <p>13 that.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. Do you know what types of</p> <p>15 approvals were sought from the township?</p> <p>16 A. I cannot be sure of that.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. And, again, you may not know the</p> <p>18 answers to these questions, but do you know if there</p> <p>19 were any other governmental or agency approvals or</p> <p>20 licensure that was sought out when creating Liberty</p> <p>21 Ridge?</p> <p>22 A. I do not know that.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. Do you know or was there any</p> <p>24 discussion amongst the Mission Board of any</p> <p>25 consultations with psychological or medical</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 these people out?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. Do you or did you have any prior</p> <p>4 interaction with or knowledge of the individuals</p> <p>5 listed for the house parents?</p> <p>6 A. In what way?</p> <p>7 Q. If you knew them personally, had any</p> <p>8 business dealings with them before. I see here that</p> <p>9 at least one of them, Ethan Weaver, I believe was on</p> <p>10 the committee, so you were likely familiar with him</p> <p>11 before, but did you know any of the other individuals</p> <p>12 listed?</p> <p>13 A. Some of them I would have known, not all</p> <p>14 of them personally.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. And who are the individuals that</p> <p>16 were known to you previously?</p> <p>17 A. Fred Miller, David Meck, Timothy</p> <p>18 Newswanger, Raymond Martin. Maybe Leroy Allgyer in a</p> <p>19 very limited way.</p> <p>20 Q. And when you say that you knew of them,</p> <p>21 were these people that you either did business with</p> <p>22 and knew personally or just knew of them generally?</p> <p>23 A. Just knew of them generally.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. Do you know if there was any</p> <p>25 selection process in indicating these individuals by</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 professionals as it relates to the treatment at this</p> <p>2 boys home?</p> <p>3 A. I'm not sure that I understand that</p> <p>4 question.</p> <p>5 Q. Were there any discussions amongst</p> <p>6 yourselves when discussing the creation of the boys</p> <p>7 home whether there would be any sort of medical</p> <p>8 treatment or psychological treatment or at least a</p> <p>9 consultation with a psychological professional in</p> <p>10 developing the home?</p> <p>11 A. I do not remember any of that on the</p> <p>12 board level.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay. So I'm going to turn to the next</p> <p>14 page, Page 91. And this time I'll take you closer up</p> <p>15 to the top of the page. It looks like the minutes</p> <p>16 from November 29th, 2010, and I see here personnel for</p> <p>17 approval were shared as follows, and it has a list of</p> <p>18 house parents and a list of mentors.</p> <p>19 Were these individuals that were brought</p> <p>20 to the Mission Board from the Liberty Ridge committee</p> <p>21 or was the Mission Board involved in the selection of</p> <p>22 these individuals?</p> <p>23 A. They were brought to the Mission Board</p> <p>24 from the boys home committee.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. So the Mission Board didn't seek</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 the committee or was that not something you were</p> <p>2 involved in?</p> <p>3 A. It was not something I was involved in.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. And on the next page, Page 92,</p> <p>5 where it says Liberty Ridge, where it says approval is</p> <p>6 requested for the following for house parents Marlin</p> <p>7 Mussers, Raymond Siegrists, Earl -- is it Gehmans? I</p> <p>8 cannot read that. And Marlin Weavers.</p> <p>9 Are these other individuals who acted as</p> <p>10 house parents or were just deemed to be fit to be</p> <p>11 house parents, if you know?</p> <p>12 A. They were just deemed to be fit for house</p> <p>13 parents.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. And we'll move on to the next</p> <p>15 page, Page 92, specifically under boys home where it's</p> <p>16 Line Item E where it talks about the committee</p> <p>17 presented a proposal from Snyder Gates, LLC, that</p> <p>18 would allow them to set up the shop to manufacture</p> <p>19 fiberglass farm gates incorporating the labor of the</p> <p>20 Liberty Farm residents.</p> <p>21 Were you involved in any discussions</p> <p>22 about incorporating the labor of these boys for</p> <p>23 third-party businesses?</p> <p>24 A. I do not recall that.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. Would this have been something</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 that the committee came up with a proposal and then</p> <p>2 presented it to the Mission Board?</p> <p>3 A. That is correct.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. And it says a motion carried to</p> <p>5 allow them to use this and enter into a one-year</p> <p>6 agreement. So would it be safe to say then the</p> <p>7 committee brought this idea to the board, and the</p> <p>8 board approved it?</p> <p>9 A. That is correct.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. Did the board when you were</p> <p>11 involved have any other discussions involving the uses</p> <p>12 of Liberty Ridge for any reason for any business</p> <p>13 purpose or any other reason?</p> <p>14 A. Not that I remember.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Do you know of the business Snyder</p> <p>16 Gates, LLC? Are you familiar with them at all?</p> <p>17 A. Not really.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay. Do you know who owns it or who's</p> <p>19 involved in the business?</p> <p>20 A. I do not.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. Are you aware in any way of how</p> <p>22 Snyder Gates was contracted with or how its business</p> <p>23 arrangements were set up with Liberty Ridge?</p> <p>24 A. No. I do not know that.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. Are you familiar with -- and I'm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 about.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Are you aware of any training that</p> <p>3 was given to any staff of Liberty Ridge?</p> <p>4 A. What kind of training are you talking</p> <p>5 about?</p> <p>6 Q. Any.</p> <p>7 A. No. I'm not really aware of that.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. Was that something that was</p> <p>9 discussed at all during the Mission meetings?</p> <p>10 A. I don't recall that it was.</p> <p>11 Q. Are you aware of whether there was any</p> <p>12 advertising or any publications put out to, I guess,</p> <p>13 solicit residents for Liberty Ridge at any point?</p> <p>14 A. No. There would not have been.</p> <p>15 Q. So that would, I guess, go into the next</p> <p>16 few questions. Are you aware of how people within the</p> <p>17 community came to know of Liberty Ridge? Was it just</p> <p>18 word of mouth? Was it preached at congregations? How</p> <p>19 would that have worked, if you know?</p> <p>20 A. I think it mostly would have been by word</p> <p>21 of mouth.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. And do you know how Liberty Ridge</p> <p>23 was being described or told to people what it would</p> <p>24 have done for these boys?</p> <p>25 A. I don't recall of anything of that nature</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 just going to list a few business names that have come</p> <p>2 up generally in discovery with counsel so far in this</p> <p>3 case.</p> <p>4 Are you familiar with any other business</p> <p>5 that have done business with Liberty Ridge such as</p> <p>6 Sensenig Chair Shop, Clark's Feed Mills, Wengerd</p> <p>7 Pallet Company, or Dutch-Way Farm Market?</p> <p>8 A. I would be a little bit familiar with</p> <p>9 Wengerd Feed Mills, and what was the other names that</p> <p>10 you gave?</p> <p>11 Q. There's Clark's Feed Mills, Wengerd</p> <p>12 Pallet Company, and Dutch-Way Farm Market.</p> <p>13 A. Yeah, the Wengerd Pallet Company.</p> <p>14 Q. And how were they known to you?</p> <p>15 A. Just by name.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. You don't have any business</p> <p>17 dealings or any financial interests in that company?</p> <p>18 A. No.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. Do you know who owns it?</p> <p>20 A. No, I do not.</p> <p>21 Q. Are you aware personally of any other</p> <p>22 businesses that from 2011 or about then when Liberty</p> <p>23 Ridge began to the present that has done any business</p> <p>24 at Liberty Ridge at all?</p> <p>25 A. Not other than the two that we talked</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 other than to help young men.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Was there any discussion with you</p> <p>3 or with the Mission Board about the structure of the</p> <p>4 programming at Liberty Ridge?</p> <p>5 A. Not in a specific way.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. Generally, how was it brought up,</p> <p>7 if at all?</p> <p>8 A. They would have mostly formed their own</p> <p>9 structure.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. And then just told the Mission</p> <p>11 about it?</p> <p>12 A. That's correct.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay. So is it safe to say then the</p> <p>14 committee would bring the general ideas of the program</p> <p>15 to the Mission Board, and as long as it didn't sound</p> <p>16 outrageous in any way, say that sounds okay?</p> <p>17 A. That is correct.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay. Do you know whether there is any</p> <p>19 discussions about a number of work hours for the</p> <p>20 residents or whether there was any consultation with</p> <p>21 agencies like the Department of Labor or anything like</p> <p>22 that?</p> <p>23 A. I'm not aware of that.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. Was there any discussion about the</p> <p>25 price of the programing, whether parents would be</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p>1 paying a certain amount of money in or anything like</p> <p>2 that?</p> <p>3 A. No, not on the Mission Board level.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. So I guess at the end of the day,</p> <p>5 now moving forward, Liberty Ridge is now open. What</p> <p>6 is the Mission's involvement once Liberty Ridge is now</p> <p>7 its own entity?</p> <p>8 A. The only involvement that we would have</p> <p>9 would be in approving personnel to serve there.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. And what do you mean by that?</p> <p>11 A. The committee would bring names for house</p> <p>12 parents or mentors, and we would approve or</p> <p>13 disapprove.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. And now that -- when I say now</p> <p>15 that Liberty Ridge is open, I'm saying, you know, from</p> <p>16 2011 and onward. So once Liberty Ridge is opened, did</p> <p>17 they report to the Mission Board in any way? Like did</p> <p>18 they give, you know, a report at board meetings or was</p> <p>19 there any other type of oversight?</p> <p>20 A. They would have given a report at board</p> <p>21 meetings if they had anything that they wanted to</p> <p>22 request.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. And when you say anything they</p> <p>24 want to request, what do you mean by that?</p> <p>25 A. Personnel.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p>1 ten? Less than ten?</p> <p>2 A. More than ten.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. And when would that have been</p> <p>4 generally over a time frame?</p> <p>5 A. Sporadic.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. Do you know if other Mission Board</p> <p>7 members have been to the Liberty Ridge property?</p> <p>8 A. I would think that most of them probably</p> <p>9 have been.</p> <p>10 Q. Was there any direction from the Mission</p> <p>11 Board to visit the Liberty Ridge property for any of</p> <p>12 its members?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. So it would be safe to say then</p> <p>15 that if any Mission Board members went to the</p> <p>16 property, it was on their own, I guess on their own</p> <p>17 volition?</p> <p>18 A. That's correct.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. When you went to the Liberty Ridge</p> <p>20 property, did you give them any direction or make any</p> <p>21 decisions for them or was it purely as an observer?</p> <p>22 A. It was purely as an observer for the most</p> <p>23 part.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. And when you say for the most</p> <p>25 part, were there any other times that you weren't just</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. Was there any involvement with the</p> <p>2 Mission Board with funding in any way of Liberty</p> <p>3 Ridge?</p> <p>4 A. The Mission Board would have purchased</p> <p>5 the farm to begin with to give them a place to</p> <p>6 operate.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. Is the Mission Board or was the</p> <p>8 Mission Board involved in any way with the actual</p> <p>9 business entity generally of Liberty Ridge other than</p> <p>10 the ownership of the property?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. Did the Mission Board give Liberty</p> <p>13 Ridge any direction that was unsolicited by Liberty</p> <p>14 Ridge? Like say you told me earlier that Liberty</p> <p>15 Ridge would report to the Mission Board and ask -- you</p> <p>16 know, they would ask for certain things. But was</p> <p>17 there any point where the Mission Board would take the</p> <p>18 first step to say you need to do X, Y, and Z?</p> <p>19 A. I do not recall anything like that.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay. Have you personally been to the</p> <p>21 Liberty Ridge property?</p> <p>22 A. Yes, I have.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. How many times?</p> <p>24 A. I do not know.</p> <p>25 Q. Would it be more than two? More than</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 observing that you were involved in any way?</p> <p>2 A. In the very beginning I was assigned to</p> <p>3 help them to get started with the work.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. What do you mean by that?</p> <p>5 A. It was mostly administrative things.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 A. Structuring the committee and structuring</p> <p>8 the work.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay. Did that involve any financial</p> <p>10 reports or ledgers or anything like that?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. It was just general guidance?</p> <p>13 A. That's correct.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. Has your personal business ever</p> <p>15 done any business with Liberty Ridge?</p> <p>16 A. No.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the</p> <p>18 corporate filing of Liberty Ridge and specifically the</p> <p>19 registration of the Liberty Ridge name and the</p> <p>20 corporate documents?</p> <p>21 A. No.</p> <p>22 Q. Do you know if any of the other Mission</p> <p>23 Board members, either past or present, were involved</p> <p>24 in any way with a financial interest in Liberty Ridge,</p> <p>25 any labor that was there, or any business interest?</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 A. No.</p> <p>2 Q. Are you personally related to anyone</p> <p>3 that's on the Liberty Ridge board currently?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Or past?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. Do you know -- this may be outside</p> <p>8 of your knowledge -- what is the involvement of any</p> <p>9 individual congregations within the EPMC with Liberty</p> <p>10 Ridge? Is there any?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. I know we heard yesterday in</p> <p>13 testimony that within individual congregations that</p> <p>14 sometimes -- I forget. It wasn't the word solicit.</p> <p>15 There was another word that was used for obtaining</p> <p>16 donations from people that sometimes they would say</p> <p>17 this week we're asking for donations for improvements</p> <p>18 to the congregation or next week it will be for the</p> <p>19 Mission Board.</p> <p>20 Do you know was the Mission Board ever</p> <p>21 directly asking any individual congregations for</p> <p>22 money?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. So you wouldn't know if Liberty</p> <p>25 Ridge had ever done that?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 A. That is correct.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Is that -- would it be considered</p> <p>3 in the form of a loan or was it more casual in that</p> <p>4 when you get money in, just pay it back to the Mission</p> <p>5 Board when you have it from, say, these donations from</p> <p>6 congregation members?</p> <p>7 A. I'm not sure if I understand your</p> <p>8 question.</p> <p>9 Q. I guess when it comes to the property</p> <p>10 being owned by the Mission Board that Liberty Ridge is</p> <p>11 operating on, was it structured in a sense of like</p> <p>12 this is a loan, you need to pay us this much money</p> <p>13 every month, or was it more casual in that if</p> <p>14 donations came in, then it would just go to the</p> <p>15 Mission Board to help offset that payment?</p> <p>16 A. There was nothing structured as far as</p> <p>17 repaying the loan.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 A. It was only a general understanding that</p> <p>20 if offerings would come that were to pay toward the</p> <p>21 farm, that those would be sent back to the Mission</p> <p>22 Board.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. Were you aware of any of the work</p> <p>24 that was done on Liberty Ridge such as there was --</p> <p>25 there were crops that were being harvested. There</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 A. Not that I'm aware of.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Is Liberty Ridge making any</p> <p>3 payments to the Mission Board, say, for use of the</p> <p>4 property? Anything like that?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. Did they ever, if you know?</p> <p>7 A. The only thing that they would have done</p> <p>8 would have been if congregations voluntarily lifted an</p> <p>9 offering for --</p> <p>10 Q. Lifted an offering, okay. That was the</p> <p>11 term I was looking for.</p> <p>12 A. To help the expense.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 A. To repay the loan.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 A. Some of those offerings may have been</p> <p>17 sent to Liberty Ridge.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 A. They would have then taken it and sent</p> <p>20 those offerings to the Mission Board because the</p> <p>21 Mission Board was the one who supplied the funds to</p> <p>22 buy the farm to begin with.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. So that would have been the only</p> <p>24 financial, I guess, going back and forth between the</p> <p>25 two entities?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 were pallets being built, things like that. Were you</p> <p>2 generally aware of the type of work that was being</p> <p>3 done?</p> <p>4 A. Generally.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. Was it anything that was brought</p> <p>6 to your attention in the capacity of being a board</p> <p>7 member or was it more just you heard about it and were</p> <p>8 aware?</p> <p>9 A. Just heard about it and was aware of it.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. Does Liberty Ridge in any way have</p> <p>11 to report its finances or report its profits or</p> <p>12 business or anything like that to the Mission Board?</p> <p>13 A. No, they do not.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. So I guess in a bird's eye view of</p> <p>15 the Mission Board's current or from 2011 when it was</p> <p>16 created to the present involvement with Liberty Ridge,</p> <p>17 does Liberty Ridge have to report any certain things</p> <p>18 to the Mission Board or is it just what they feel they</p> <p>19 should report at the time?</p> <p>20 A. If they want to make any expenditure over</p> <p>21 \$5,000, then they would need to get approval from the</p> <p>22 Mission Board for that.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. And why is that?</p> <p>24 A. Just a system of checks and balances.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. Do you know if Liberty Ridge makes</p>

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1 any income reports, files tax returns, anything like
 2 that?
 3 A. I'm not aware of that.
 4 Q. Okay. When you say Liberty Ridge has to
 5 report any expenditures over \$5,000, do they ever have
 6 to report any certain profits or income coming into
 7 the program?
 8 A. No.
 9 Q. Okay. Are you personally familiar with
 10 or have you met either of our clients either [REDACTED]
 11 [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
 12 A. I am not familiar with them.
 13 MS. FRANCHI: Okay. All right. I think
 14 if we could maybe take like a ten-minute break. I
 15 think I'm probably going to be done soon. I just want
 16 to take a look at everything and then if you have any
 17 questions after that.
 18 MS. WYNKOOP: Sure.
 19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going off the
 20 record at 9:47 a.m.
 21 (Recess)
 22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are going back on
 23 the record. The time is 9:58 a.m.
 24 BY MS. FRANCHI:
 25 Q. All right. So I only have a few more

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1 questions for you. I was hoping that you could
 2 explain to me a little bit better about why is it that
 3 the Mission has any sort of oversight over Liberty
 4 Ridge.
 5 And what I mean by that is once Liberty
 6 Ridge became its own entity, why is it that the
 7 Mission has any oversight over it at all?
 8 A. I think it would be primarily because we
 9 feel that it's good for any committee to have a checks
 10 and balance arrangement where somebody would be
 11 overseeing it even if it's just in a general way.
 12 Q. Okay. And when you say checks and
 13 balances, what is it that you're kind of making sure
 14 that you keep an eye on?
 15 A. The personnel that they would use and the
 16 funds that are being used.
 17 Q. And why is it that you or the Mission
 18 Board feels that those types of things need to be --
 19 there needs to be an eye kept on them, and I mean that
 20 in that, you know, other business or non-profits kind
 21 of report to their own individual governing structure.
 22 So why is it that the Mission Board oversees these
 23 other entities, Liberty Ridge or any of the other ones
 24 within the community?
 25 A. I suppose it's just because that's the

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1 way we got started and doing it.
 2 Q. Okay. Does it have anything to do with
 3 making sure it's also -- these organizations are kind
 4 of working within the guidelines of the Eastern
 5 Pennsylvania Church or are there other reasons?
 6 A. Could you be more specific?
 7 Q. Yeah. I guess what I'm trying to get at
 8 is, you know, what is it that makes Liberty Ridge or
 9 any of the other organizations overseen by the
 10 Mission, why is it that they need this oversight for
 11 checks and balances? Is it to adhere to certain
 12 standards? Is it just to make sure that it's
 13 following certain guidelines? I want to understand a
 14 little bit better about how -- how that works.
 15 A. I wouldn't say that it's because we feel
 16 that there's a need for it as far as being suspicious
 17 of any particular thing. It's just probably the way
 18 that we do these type of things that somebody knows in
 19 a general way what's going on.
 20 Q. Okay.
 21 A. What's happening.
 22 Q. And I know we learned or at least I
 23 learned a little bit more yesterday just about the
 24 EPMC in general, and that it's not really an
 25 organization in that it doesn't have an office or a

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1 bank account or anything like that. It's kind of a
 2 nebulous association of the congregations.
 3 So because of that, does the Mission then
 4 kind of take on that role because it is an
 5 organization to make sure that these institutions
 6 within the church are kind of, I guess, acting
 7 appropriately?
 8 A. The mandate of the Mission Board is that
 9 it's the official organization that is looked to for
 10 help whenever help is needed.
 11 Q. Okay.
 12 A. And so if it's a church wide program,
 13 then it would in a certain manner be under the Mission
 14 Board.
 15 Q. Okay.
 16 A. But not in any other way that I can think
 17 of.
 18 MS. FRANCHI: Okay. Okay. I think that
 19 is probably everything that I have to ask today. I
 20 don't know if you have any follow-up questions or
 21 anything?
 22 MS. WYNKOOP: No.
 23 MS. FRANCHI: All right.
 24 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This marks the end of
 25 the deposition of Mark Torkelson. We are going off

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1 the record at 10:02 a.m.
 2 (The deposition was concluded at 10:02
 3 a.m.)
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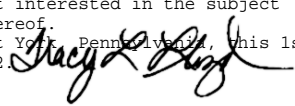
1 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA)
 2) SS.
 3 COUNTY OF YORK)
 4

5 I, Tracy L. Lloyd, a Registered
 6 Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for
 7 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and County of
 8 York, do hereby certify that the foregoing
 9 testimony was taken before me at the time and place
 10 hereinbefore set forth, and that it is the
 11 testimony of:
 12

13 MARK TORKELOSON
 14

15 I further certify that said witness
 16 was by me duly sworn to testify the whole and
 17 complete truth in said cause; that the testimony
 18 then given was reported by me stenographically, and
 19 subsequently transcribed under my direction and
 20 supervision; and that the foregoing is a full, true
 21 and correct transcript of my original shorthand
 22 notes.

23 I further certify that I am not
 24 counsel for nor related to any of the parties to
 25 the foregoing cause, nor employed by them or their
 attorneys, and am not interested in the subject
 matter or outcome thereof.

26 Dated at York, Pennsylvania, this 1st
 27 day of November, 2022. 

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Tracy L. Lloyd, Notary Public
 Registered Professional Reporter
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 My Commission expires:
 April 21, 2023